

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1993

Legislative Document

No. 844

H.P. 620

House of Representatives, March 9, 1993

An Act to Protect Civil Rights.

(EMERGENCY)

Reference to the Committee on Judiciary suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Mayo".

JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

Presented by Representative CATHCART of Orono.
Cosponsored by Representatives: COTE of Auburn, HOGLUND of Portland, MORRISON of Bangor, RAND of Portland, Senator: CONLEY of Cumberland.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, certain law enforcement agencies are corresponding with owners of motor vehicles without reason to believe that a crime has been committed; and

Whereas, emergency enactment of this legislation will prohibit any law enforcement agency from corresponding with owners of motor vehicles when the correspondence constitutes an attempt to interfere with an owner's rights to travel or associate with others; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §4633 is enacted to read:

§4633. Written correspondence

Law enforcement agencies may not correspond with the owner of a registered motor vehicle, if the correspondence is not in furtherance of an investigation of a crime and is designed to interfere with, or is an attempt to interfere with, the owner's rights to freely travel and to freely associate with other persons.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill prohibits law enforcement agencies from corresponding with owners of motor vehicles in order to attempt to interfere with the owner's rights to freely travel and to freely associate with other persons.